

Public Health Office,
32, South Street,
Bridport.

October, 1946.

ANNUAL REPORT OF THE MEDICAL OFFICER OF HEALTH
TO THE LYME REGIS BOROUGH COUNCIL FOR THE YEAR
1945 INCLUDING STATISTICS FOR THE PERIOD
1938 - 1945.

PUBLIC HEALTH STAFF.

Medical Officer of Health Adam Armit, M.B., Ch.B.,
D.P.H.
Sanitary Inspector & Surveyor ... E. Prescott, A.R.S.S.I.,
M.Inst.B.E.
Veterinary Surgeon (Part-time) ... K.I. Marshall, M.R.C.V.S.
Clerk ... Miss A.M. Johnson.

STATISTICS OF THE AREA.

Area in acres 1,237
Registrar General's estimate of population ... 2,951
Number of inhabited houses, according to Rate
Books, as at end of 1945. ... 902
Rateable Value £25,769.
Sum represented by a Penny Rate £100.5.9.

EXTRACTS FROM VITAL STATISTICS.

<u>Live Births</u>	<u>M.</u>	<u>F.</u>	
All Births	25	23	
Legitimate	20	20	Birth Rate per 1,000 resident
Illegitimate	5	3	population = 16.27
Total Births	48		

<u>Still Births</u>	<u>M</u>	<u>F</u>	
All Still Births	2	1	
Legitimate	1	-	Still Birth Rate per 1,000 resident
Illegitimate	1	1	population = 1.02.
Total Still Births	3		

Deaths of Infants under One Year of Age

	<u>M</u>	<u>F</u>	
Total	2	2	
Legitimate	2	1	Death Rate of all Infants per
Illegitimate	-	1	1,000 notified births = 83.33

Deaths from Puerperal Causes ... Nil.
Maternal Mortality Rate per 1,000 live and still births ... NIL.

<u>Deaths</u>	<u>M</u>	<u>F</u>	
Total Deaths	(25 17)	42	Death Rate per 1,000 estimated resident population = 14.23

- 2 -
CAUSES OF DEATH AT ALL AGES.

	1938	1939	1940	1941	1942	1943	1944	1945	M.F.
1. Typhoid & Paratyphoid	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-
2. Cerebro-Spinal Fever	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-
3. Scarlet Fever	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-
4. Whooping Cough	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-
5. Diphtheria	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-
6. Tuberculosis of Respiratory System	1	1	1	1	1	1	1	1	1
7. Other forms Tuberculosis	1	1	1	1	1	1	1	1	1
8. Syphilitic Diseases	1	1	1	1	1	1	1	1	1
9. Influenza	1	1	1	1	1	1	1	1	1
10. Measles	1	1	1	1	1	1	1	1	1
11. Acute Poliomyelitis & Polio Encephalitis	1	1	1	1	1	1	1	1	1
12. Acute Inf. Encephalitis	1	1	1	1	1	1	1	1	1
13. Cancer of Cav: & Oesoph (M) Uterus (F)	1	1	1	1	1	1	1	1	1
14. Cancer of Stomach & Duodenum	1	1	1	1	1	1	1	1	1
15. Cancer of Breast	1	1	1	1	1	1	1	1	1
16. Cancer of all other sites	1	1	1	1	1	1	1	1	1
17. Diabetes	1	1	1	1	1	1	1	1	1
18. Intracranial Vascular Lesion	1	1	1	1	1	1	1	1	1
19. Heart Disease	1	1	1	1	1	1	1	1	1
20. Other Diseases of Circulatory System	1	1	1	1	1	1	1	1	1
21. Bronchitis	1	1	1	1	1	1	1	1	1
22. Pneumonia	1	1	1	1	1	1	1	1	1
23. Other Respiratory Diseases	1	1	1	1	1	1	1	1	1
24. Ulcer of Stomach & Duodenum	1	1	1	1	1	1	1	1	1
25. Diarrhoea (under 2 years)	1	1	1	1	1	1	1	1	1
26. Appendicitis	1	1	1	1	1	1	1	1	1
27. Other Digestive Diseases	1	1	1	1	1	1	1	1	1
28. Nephritis	1	1	1	1	1	1	1	1	1
29. Puerperal & Post Abortive Sepsis	1	1	1	1	1	1	1	1	1
30. Other Maternal Causes	1	1	1	1	1	1	1	1	1
31. Premature Birth	1	1	1	1	1	1	1	1	1
32. Con. Mal. Birth Injury. Infant Dis.	1	1	1	1	1	1	1	1	1
33. Suicide	1	1	1	1	1	1	1	1	1
34. Road Traffic Accidents	1	1	1	1	1	1	1	1	1
35. Other Violent Causes	1	1	1	1	1	1	1	1	1
36. All Other Causes	3	5	4	5	4	4	4	4	4
TOTALS	37	36	37	45	37	35	50	25	17

OTHER VITAL STATISTICS.

	1938	1939	1940	1941	1942	1943	1944	1945
Population.....	2715	2731	3212	3443	2942	2747	2972	2951
Rateable Value.....	£24,976	£25,593	£25,771	£25,706	£25,672	£25,672	£25,769	£25,769
Estimated Produce of a Penny Rate.....	£96	£101	£98.10.	£102	£103.16.11.	£101	£101	£100
BIRTHS:-								
Live Births.....	29	38	43	40	58	35	55	48
Legitimate.....	29	38	41	35	53	30	43	40
Illegitimate.....	-	-	2	5	5	5	12	8
Still Births.....	1	1	2	2	4	4	1	3
Birth Rate.....	10.68	13.9	13.9	11.62	19.7	12.74	18.5	16.27
Birth Rate. (England & Wales).....	15.61	15.15	14.6	14.20	15.8	16.5	17.6	16.1
DEATHS:-								
Total Deaths.....	37	36	45	37	35	50	42	42
Death Rate.....	9.54	8.71	13.6	12.57	12.74	16.8	14.23	14.23
Death Rate (England & Wales).....	11.6	12.1	14.3	11.6	12.1	11.6	11.6	11.4
INFANT MORTALITY:-								
Deaths under 1 Year of Age.....	2	1	4	2	1	1	18.18	4
Infantile Death Rate.....	68.9	25.64	86.96	42.45	28.57	46	83.33	46
Infantile Death Rate (England & Wales).....	53	50	55	59	49			
MATERNAL MORTALITY:-								
Maternal Deaths.....	1	-	-	-	-	-	-	-
Maternal Death Rate.....	33.33	-	-	-	-	-	-	-
Maternal Death Rate.....	2.97	2.82	2.16	2.23	2.01	2.29	1.93	1.79

SANITARY CIRCUMSTANCES OF THE AREA.WATER SUPPLY.

There are two sources of supply, the first, owned by the Council at Rhode Barton, gives an average daily yield of 48,000 gallons. The second, owned by a private water company from Pinhay, has an average daily yield of 750,000 gallons. The Council take a minimum of 50,000 gallons per day from the Pinhay source with an arrangement to increase this up to 150,000 gallons. Both supplies are continuously chlorinated. The Pinhay water is very hard but pure in quality. Over 90% of the houses have water laid on and the rest have taps outside. Three samples were taken from the Rhode Barton source for analysis and they proved to be highly satisfactory.

DRAINAGE AND SEWERAGE.

The Western part of the town is drained by a 9" sewer to a 12" iron outfall at the Cobb. The centre of the town is drained by 9", 12" and 15" sewers, and the valley by 9" and 12" sewers in the river bed. These join at the river mouth and discharge to sea by an 18" iron outfall. Both outfalls discharge slightly beyond low water mark. No intermediate retaining tanks are installed and no nuisance is created on the foreshore by sewage from the outfall.

The whole town is on the water carriage system, except for a few huts on the Western Beach from which the Council collect and dispose of the pail contents twice weekly.

PUBLIC CLEANSING.

Over a thousand bins are collected once weekly of household and trade refuse, no charge being made for the latter. The refuse is conveyed to a tip on the cliffs, east of the town. This tip is not only an eyesore but also a danger to Public Health.

SANITARY INSPECTION OF THE AREA.

No. of Inspections for all purposes	236		
No. of Informal Notices	35	No. complied with	35
No. of Statutory Notices	Nil.	No. complied with	Nil

INSPECTION AND SUPERVISION OF FOOD.Condemnation of Foodstuffs.

Foodstuff. Loose Goods.	Quantity.			Foodstuff. Canned Goods.	Quantity.		
	Cwt.	Qrs.	lbs.		Cwt.	Qrs.	lbs.
Apples	1	3	20	Meat	2	-	19
Onions		2	1	Fish	2	13	
Oranges	16	1	22	Fruit	2	3	
Bacon		1	18	Vegetables	1	-	1
Butter			10	Milk	2	7	
Cheese		13					
Fish Cakes		12					
Pudding Mixture		18					

5.

Milk Supplies.

Cowsheds and Dairies.

No. of persons on Register ...	...	...	...	...	8
No. of Dairy Farms and Dairy Premises	...	...	...	...	6
No. of Dairy Farms inspected	...	...	...	...	6
No. of Inspections ...	...	...	...	...	6
No. of Notices served	...	...	...	...	Nil.

There is no pasteurising plant in the area.

Meat Inspection.

All the slaughtering for West Dorset takes place at a Slaughter House just outside Bridport Borough. A Veterinary Surgeon, appointed by the four districts concerned, is responsible for the inspection of carcasses, on every day that slaughtering takes place.

RODENT CONTROL.

A full-time Rodent Officer is employed by the Council and he reports that an estimated total of 1,300 rats were destroyed, including 107 in the sewers. Infestations just beyond the Borough Boundaries were reported to the Dorset W.A.E.C. and the Axminster Sanitary Inspector, and action was taken by these Authorities. Infestations at Military sites were dealt with by the Military Authorities, but two military sites were treated by the Rodent Officer as the matter was urgent.

HOUSING.

Inspection of Dwelling Houses.

Total number of dwelling houses inspected for housing defects	81
Number of Inspections made for the purpose ...	81
Number of defective dwelling houses rendered fit after service	7
Number of houses owned by Local Authority ...	153
Approximate number of working class houses in District ...	450

New Houses.

Total number of new houses erected during 1945 ... Nil.

For their Housing Programme the Council own 6.197 acres, but they propose to acquire 27.767 acres of which 24.253 acres will be for the erection of houses and 3.514 acres for a permanent green belt. Their immediate Post War Programme includes 24 permanent and 10 temporary houses.

INFECTIOUS DISEASES NOTIFIED DURING 1942.

DISEASE.	Under all ages. Year.					Over persons belonging to District.					Total Cases & Dths. removed to Hos. of Hospital in persons belonging to District.				
	Total Cases at 1 1-2 2-3 3-4 4-5 5-10 10-15 15-20 20-35 35-45 45-65 65	1	1-2	2-3	3-4	4-5	5-10	10-15	15-20	20-35	35-45	45-65	65	Total Cases in District.	
Diphtheria	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	
Erysipelas	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	
Scarlet Fever	2	—	—	1	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	2	—	—	
Puerperal Pyrexia	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	
Cerebro-Spinal Fever	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	
Acute Poliomyelitis	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	
Ophthalmia Neonatorum	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	
Dysentery	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	
Encephalitis Lethargica	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	
Pneumonia	8	1	—	1	—	—	—	—	2	—	—	1	1	3	
Pulmonary Tuberculosis	1	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	1	—	—	
Non-Pulmonary T.B.	1	—	—	1	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	
Measles	67	3	4	12	4	12	27	3	—	1	—	—	3	—	
Whooping Cough	2	—	—	—	—	—	1	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	
<u>TOTALS...</u>	81	5	6	13	4	12	29	5	—	2	2	1	2	3	
													7	—	

There was a sharp outbreak of Measles from May to July when 67 cases were notified, 40% being in the 5-10 years age group. There were no deaths from the disease. There have been no cases of Diphtheria during the past three years.

INFECTIOUS DISEASES 1938 - 1942.

DISEASE	1938			1939			1940			1941			1942			1943			1944		
	Cases	Dths.	Cases	Dths.	Cases	Dths.	Cases	Dths.	Cases	Dths.	Cases	Dths.	Cases	Dths.	Cases	Dths.	Cases	Dths.	Cases	Dths.	
Smallpox	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	
Diphtheria	—	—	—	—	—	—	2	1	1	—	1	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	
Erysipelas	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	
Scarlet Fever	1	1	3	—	—	—	—	5	—	—	1	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	2	—	
Enteric Fever (Inc. Typhoid)	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	
Puerperal Pyrexia	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	
Puerperal Fever	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	
Cerebro-Spinal Fever	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	2	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	
Acute Poliomyelitis	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	
Optalmia Neonatorum	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	
Dysentery	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	
Encephalitis Lethargica	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	
Pneumonia	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	
Pulmonary Tuberculosis.	4	1	—	—	1	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	1	—	1	—	
Non-Pul. Tuberculosis	—	—	—	—	1	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	1	—	
Measles	Not known	—	—	—	23	—	—	260	—	—	7	—	34	—	—	2	—	67	—	—	
Whooping Cough	Not known	2	—	—	51	—	—	9	—	—	4	1	—	—	22	—	2	—	—	—	
TOTALS.....	5	1	6	1	78	1	276	—	14	1	36	1	27	—	81	3					

TUBERCULOSIS.New Cases and Mortality during 1945.

Age Periods	New Cases				Deaths			
	Pulmonary.		Non-Pulmonary.		Pulmonary.		Non-Pulmonary.	
	M.	F.	M.	F.	M.	F.	M.	F.
0 - 5	-	-	-	-	1	-	-	-
5 - 15	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-
15 - 25	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-
25 - 35	1	-	-	-	-	-	-	-
35 - 45	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-
45 - 55	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-
55 - 65	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-
65 & Over	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-
TOTALS..	1	-	-	-	1	-	-	-

New Cases and Mortality 1938-1945.

	New Cases.				Deaths.			
	Pulmonary.		Non-Pulmonary		Pulmonary.		Non-Pulmonary.	
	M.	F.	M.	F.	M.	F.	M.	F.
1938	2	2	-	-	1	-	1	-
1939	-	-	-	1	1	-	-	-
1940	1	-	-	-	-	-	1	-
1941	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-
1942	-	-	-	-	1	-	-	-
1943	1	-	-	-	-	-	-	-
1944	1	1	-	-	-	-	-	-
1945	1	-	-	1	-	-	-	-
TOTALS.	6	3	-	2	3	1	1	-

DIPHTHERIA IMMUNISATION.

Number of Children who had completed a full course of Immunisation at any time up to 31st December, 1945.

Age at 31.12.45.	Under 1				5 to 9		10 to 14		Total under 15
	1	2	3	4					
Year Born	1945	1944	1943	1942	1941	1936 - 1940.	1931 - 1935		
Number Immunised	1	39	34	45	36	200	186	541	
Estimated mid-year population 1945.	245	398	643						

Percentage immunised - Pre-School Children 53 and School Children 97.

There were no cases of Diphtheria notified during the year and no deaths occurred from the disease.

